

Message

From: Lindstrom, Andrew [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=04BF7CF26AA44CE29763FBC1C1B2338E-LINDSTROM, ANDREW]
Sent: 1/7/2016 1:27:10 PM
To: Wing, Steve [steve_wing@unc.edu]; Lauren Richter [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]
Subject: RE: diagram for environmental sociology exam, would love your feedback
Attachments: Late lessons from early warnings II - Full report -05-2013.pdf

Steve,

Thanks for sharing this. It is very much like what the chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology (Lamar Smith) is doing to the folks at NOAA who have been doing great work on global climate change. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/federal-eye/wp/2015/12/09/scientists-keep-rallying-around-noaa-chief-in-climate-feud-telling-her-stay-firm-against-bullying-tactics/>

I hope you are writing about this and will be able to get something published about this harassment. People and scientists need to know about what is happening. And they need to speak out against it – as noted in the Washington Post article above.

It's sad, but you know you're doing the right thing when you evoke this kind of a response.

David Gee and others in the European Environmental Agency's "Late Lessons Learned from Early Warnings" series talk about the asymmetry of the battle (<https://vimeo.com/59642781>). The attacks made by huge corporations are ruthless and completely out of proportion to what a few scientists and citizens can respond with. The corporations have survived and grown and accumulated power by destroying anything and everything in their path. I hope UNC is helping with your response – but that's got to be a very difficult issue for them.

If there is anything I can do to help in any way please let me know.

Thank you very much,

Andy

From: Wing, Steve [mailto:steve_wing@unc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 12:01 PM
To: Lauren Richter <[Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]> Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: diagram for environmental sociology exam, would love your feedback

Lauren, seems like all disciplines have their craziness. For an epidemiologist, the complexity of your diagram is daunting if not bewildering. However, as I try to isolate specific sections, I slip into more complexity – how is each concept defined, what assumptions are made, what's the rationale for including one factor but not another? Perhaps it is the general problem of how to make research questions useful, balancing the seamlessness and historicity of nature with the necessity of isolating parts for investigation, acknowledging that our systematics for naming the parts is itself full of assumptions.

I think it would help me to examine the figure with your research questions as a starting point, noting that any decisions about design and analysis should be tailored to the research questions and overall goals. I feel the aphorism about thinking globally and acting locally is helpful. If we don't attend to the big picture we are blind to the most important

forces, but if we don't have a handle on something specific, on producing research that is relevant to acting at a scale that is possible for us and our partners, we are left in the clouds.

You write that you are most interested in "tactics of the private sector over the decades to maintain markets and production, in the face of growing environmental health and environmental problems." The replacement chemical and manufacturing doubt tactics may be especially relevant to your interests. Moving from the grand scale to the local, I attach a current example of another industry tactic, a subpoena for 15 years of research records related to public health impacts of hog CAFO pollution. This is in relation to 26 federal law suits brought on behalf of 500+ plaintiffs, mostly low income Black NC residents who live close to CAFOs. The suits are against Murphy-Brown/Smithfield, not the local farmers. In response to Smithfield's motion to dismiss the cases I prepared a declaration for the plaintiffs citing evidence that CAFOs emit pollutants, they travel to nearby communities, and affect the health and quality of life of people who live there. Almost a year later they issued this subpoena. Anyway, it is an example of tactics used by polluters to deal with inconvenient truths. Maybe Andy would know of examples related to POPs.

Great that you're planning to come to NC. I look forward to discussing your research.

Best,
steve

From: Lauren Richter [mailto:[Ex. 6 Personal Privacy \(PP\)](#)]

Sent: Friday, December 18, 2015 6:32 PM

To: Lindstrom, Andrew <lindstrom.andrew@epa.gov>; Wing, Steve <steve_wing@unc.edu>

Subject: diagram for environmental sociology exam, would love your feedback

Hi Andy and Steve,

I hope you are both doing well, and have a good holiday this year.

I'm wrapping-up my qualifying exam in environmental sociology, and I'm attempting to merge ideas from environmental justice, critical race theory, social movements, environmental sociology, etc in analyzing both stable and fluid dynamics in environmental health exposures (ha, crazy social scientists, right!?). Have either of you read any of Derrick Bell's work? His books "silent covenants" & "and we are not saved" analyzing the aftermath of the civil rights movements has really informed how I see power structures responding to environmental data and movements. Fluid strategies to maintain stability.

Anyway, at some point my advisor just said - draw this out! So I've spent a lot of time tweaking my advisor Phil Brown's "Dominant Epidemiological Paradigm" model of how social movements attempt to influence institutions and public opinion, by pulling out two separate tracks (Phil's model is sort of the blue middle part) red = marginalized/EJ spaces and groups, green = environmentally privileged groups, primarily in Global North.

At the very top, I'm attempting to call out "stable" structures, while indicating that they have fluid discourses used to justify them that change over time (stable here = white privilege and capitalism). Its just a draft, but its helping me make sense of the strategies I see "working" in some communities, places, people, and many of the same strategies I see "failing" in EJ communities. I started thinking that there could be more scholarship on how institutions, organizations, and the "general" public treat and respond to different groups and regions, and/or that some places are used as sacrifice zones for generating resources/depositing wastes - and multinationals and/or powerful corporations are able to maintain their access and use of these spaces and people, one strategy is rendering laws, regs impossible to enforce, hiding/discouraging science, or distributing pollution in such a way that it can't be traced to a source...(i.e. PFOA production goes from U.S. to China)...?

Anyway, your thoughts on this diagram would be great. Any think else to add or dynamics that you think would be good to examine, please share. I think this could help explain PFASs/PFC production strategy, and the seeming victories by NGOs going after retailers, or winning a place-based lawsuit, but not addressing global scale production. This will become my dissertation, and I'm figuring out a do-able scope right now. My biggest interest is in shifting tactics of the private sector over the decades to maintain markets and production, in the face of growing environmental health and environmental problems.

Oh, and I do hope to spend a few weeks or perhaps month or two in NC in 2016, so I'll be in touch about that soon.

Thank you both for all your inspiring work! Lauren